
[Mr. Smith's collecting is done at his home in Sherborn, Mass., near the Natick line. The locality is in a farming community (street-lights absent) and presents the usual diversity of environment characteristic of the sand-plain area of eastern Massachusetts:—orchards, fields, gardens and shade-trees; gravelly plains and ridges sloping down into sedgy meadows through which wind sluggish, alder-fringed streams; peat-bogs, bushy swamps, and woodlands consisting now chiefly of a young growth of deciduous trees but formerly containing large tracts of white pine. The elevation is about 170 feet, dropping to 140 at the streams, and rising to 260 or even 400 at distances of half a mile to a mile and a half in boulder-strewn hills of unmodified drift, with occasional outcrops or of drumlin formation. A. P. M.]

**Change of Marking in the Males of a Spider (Pellenes cristatus).** The peculiar markings of the male appear in many species of spiders after the moult before the last when they are not more than half grown, and after the last moult these markings become more distinct and deeper in color. In *Pellenes cristatus*, however, the young male before the last moult has a bright red spot on the front of the head below the eyes which disappears entirely when it becomes adult. I first noticed these spiders in the autumn of 1901 in their silk nests under sticks on the edge of the salt marshes at Ipswich, Mass. In the following spring Mr. G. W. Peckham visited Boston and he and I went on June 17 to the same place at Ipswich where we found again the young males with red faces and with them adult males with black faces and dull gray and drab markings. We thought at the time that the young males were *Pellenes caecutus*, a common species south of New York in which the face has a similar red spot both in young and adult males. Mr. Peckham afterward identified the black males as *Pellenes cristatus* supposed to be the same species as *Attus cristatus* described by Hentz.

In the spring of 1903 I went to the shore earlier in the season and about the first of May found the black males abundant in the dead grass washed up by the tide along the edges of the marsh and with them an occasional young male with a red spot on the face. I took these home alive and one of them soon moulted and came out a black male *P. cristatus* without any trace of the red marking.—*J. H. Emerton.*
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